

## Nunes denounces 'under God' ruling by judge



Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, denounced the ruling handed down by U.S. District Judge Lawrence Karlton of the Eastern District Court in Sacramento that bars the use of the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Judge Karlton has shown time and time again that he has lost touch with reality and can not properly apply the law," Rep. Nunes said. "By banning use of the phrase 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance, as well as supporting 16 years of worthless litigation in a

separate lawsuit that seeks to undermine the economic viability of the San Joaquin Valley, it has become apparent that Judge Karlton needs to be reigned in."

Judge Karlton was appointed to the federal court in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter.

In 2003, Rep. Nunes was one of the first members of the House of Representatives to co-sponsor legislation that would preserve the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Nunes appoints Visalia woman for White House conference

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, announced that he appointed Tulare County native Berniece Doan of Visalia as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

The White House conference is held once every 10 years in Washington, D.C. to make aging policy recommendations to the President and Congress, and to assist the public and private sectors in promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security of current and future generations of older persons. The 2005 White House Conference on Aging occurs as the first

wave of the baby boom generation prepares for retirement, creating an important opportunity to creatively assess aging in America and improve the lives of older Americans.

"When considering the right person for this duty, Berniece immediately came to mind. She has been a bright, energetic and generous member of the Tulare County community for many years," Rep. Nunes said. "I know she will be an important voice for the Central Valley and a real asset in the discussion during the conference."

Doan graduated from the

College of the Sequoias nursing program and worked as a registered nurse for 25 years. She continues to volunteer her time at Kaweah Delta District Hospital. She is the secretary of the local non-profit Donald E. Wahlen, MD Youth Foundation and a member of the Fresno Symphony League and local art organizations.

Doan will be one of 1,200 delegates at the conference in December. The delegates will vote on resolutions and develop implementation strategies to be presented to the President and Congress to help guide national aging policies.

### Quick Facts

In September and October, Rep. Nunes organized tours of the U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Supreme Court, Kennedy Center, National Archives, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and Mt. Vernon for 91 constituents.

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the problem as it relates to federal lands in California. The first was held in October 2003 by the House Committee on Government Reform, in which Rep. Nunes participated. Since then, Rep. Nunes has fought for addi-

tional federal resources to address the problem. However, recent changes within the Department of Homeland Security have hamstrung some eradication efforts.

Rep. Nunes plans to call

for a renewed effort, possibly coordinating local and federal law enforcement agencies in a more effective plan.